"I am T.B.D.": Presented by TAKE 5 Foundation

See the world through the eyes and photographs of 5 middle schoolers

Exhibition dates: May 14 – May 31, 2015 | Opening Reception: Thursday, May 14th, 5:30 – 8pm

BOSTON, MA: The PRC has partnered again with the TAKE 5 Foundation to present their work with a group of middle school students. This year's TAKE 5 students include Arianna, Nikkia, Randall, Theresa, and Toni. Given cameras for a year and under the guidance of photographer Brenda Bancel, these middle school students of the Dorchester–based Epiphany School explored the photographic medium on their own terms.

This year’s exhibition is presented by the TAKE 5 Foundation and hosted by the PRC. Bancel remarks on the show’s title, “I am T.B.D.”: “The kids are always saying, ‘I’m not sure who I am yet’ I would laugh and say, ‘You will ask this question all your life,’ but it seemed a fitting title for this show where they are all trying to find themselves and leave their unique mark.” This is the third year of the PRC’s involvement with TAKE 5 and the fourth year of the program itself.

TAKE 5 asked Susan Nalband, photographer and gallery owner at 555Gallery, to guest curate for this exhibition and Digital Silver Imaging printed the work. As Bancel writes, "Susan is an expert in creating unique gallery experiences that make the photography interact with the viewer. Her creative touch will make this year’s show even more special." Bancel commented on this year’s student group and experience, "I asked many times, ‘How did you do that?’ I saw night shots, different uses of flash, intentional movement, and fogging up of their lenses in order to get a unique image. They were delightfully uninhibited by rules and had lovely results with this freedom." She explains on the foundation’s origin on its website, take5foundation.org, "The TAKE 5 Foundation is an idea that came out of my husband and I seeing the impact that can be made on a child when you coach them in a small group. If you give kids your time, teach them a skill and instill passion, you can make a formula that really works in life. EDUCATION + HARD WORK + PASSION = SUCCESS.”

- Epiphany School, based in Dorchester, MA, is an independent, tuition-free middle school for children of economically-disadvantaged families serving about 90 students in grades 5-8. Bancel explains, “I chose to work with the Epiphany School because I have been very moved by their work with kids in the Boston area. Their efforts are tireless. Their board and their teachers are unrivaled in their desire that every child should have the best chance possible in life.” epiphanyschool.com
- Susan Nalband has, according to the gallery website, "over thirty years of experience as a photographer, a serial entrepreneur, an installation director and an art consultant." Nalband says, "Photography is best seen and enjoyed in person. Online images are fleeting and easy to click through. But to have the opportunity to see the work as a finished expression of the photographer's vision and glimpse at the world as someone else sees it, can be a transformative experience.” This led to her most recent venture as a gallerist in 2013. Located in South Boston, 555 Gallery describes itself as "the newest gallery in Boston dedicated to contemporary fine art photography, endeavoring to bring interesting, meaningful exhibitions and events to the area while supporting the work of talented artists." 555gallery.com
- Brenda Bancel is the President of the Take 5 Foundation and owner of Brenda Bancel Photography LLC. She spent ten years in the advertising industry working with clients such as Apple and IBM before realizing that she wanted to focus on nonprofit work. Bancel is a 2011 graduate of the New England School of Photography, where she graduated with honors in documentary. She serves on the Board of Overseers at the Epiphany School and the Board of Governors at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Bancel’s photography can be seen at 555 Gallery where she recently had a solo exhibition entitled, “Finding the Sacred on the Sacred River.” Please see take5foundation.org for more information as well as info on the exhibition’s sponsors.

EXHIBITION HOURS: Thursdays, 11-8:30pm and Fridays 11-4pm. The PRC's 5,000-volume Aaron Siskind library will also be open the same hours. Follow & use the hashtag — #TBDTake5PRC — on social media!

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UPCOMING PRC PROGRAMMING:

- "Nights at the PRC"— First Wednesdays

Our popular Nights at the PRC are held the first Wednesday of every month and these events are an opportunity for members to share and discuss their work. Each Night is led by a different local artist and with a different theme. Our upcoming Nights are listed below. For more information about Nights and our hosts, as well as how to sign up as a presenter, please visit www.prcboston.org/nightsprc.htm. Interested and engaged audience members are welcome, no RVSP needed. Come, chat photo, & connect! #NightsatthePRC

NIGHTS: Thursday, May 6th, 7-9pm
Artist Host: Matthew Gamber — Theme: "Preservation"

If your work includes historic, archival, or memory-based material as a part of your effort in documenting, preserving, creating, or crafting your story or series, please join us for a Night exploring the theme of “Preservation.” Matthew Gamber is an Assistant Professor of Photography at the College of the Holy Cross and has previously worked on archive and digitization projects at Harvard University and the Boston Public Library.

SAVE THE DATE: June 3rd, 6:30 - 8:30pm | Hosts: Dan Meade and Rob Bellinger | Theme: "Interactions"

UPCOMING PRC EXHIBITION:

EXPOSURE: The 19th Annual PRC Juried Exhibition
June 18 – July 26, 2015
Juried by Kristen Gresh, Estrellita and Yousuf Karsh Assistant Curator of Photographs, MFA, Boston.

The Photographic Resource Center announces its annual juried show and esteemed juror: Kristen Gresh, Estrellita and Yousuf Karsh Assistant Curator of Photographs, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Since its inception in 1996, hundreds of photographers have shown in the PRC Juried Exhibitions—including an array of established photographers and those cited as “ones to watch.” Each year, a respected member of the photographic community—from curators to gallerists to photo editors is asked to jury its submissions from a call for entries. What makes EXPOSURE unique among juried exhibitions is that we ask our juror to select between 10 to 15 artists AND 2 and 5 pieces per person, allowing artists to showcase a series at a deeper level and making for an enriching viewing experience. The selected photographers will be announced in early to mid May. There were also be additional #PRCJuriedShow programming, including a lecture by Gresh, as well...stay tuned. For more information and past show pages, visit www.prcboston.org/juriedexhibition.htm.

FOR MORE INFORMATION on exhibitions & programs, and PRESS IMAGES, please contact, Bruce Myren, PRC Board Member: brucemyren@prcboston.org

About the PRC: Founded in 1976, the Photographic Resource Center (PRC) at Boston University is an independent non-profit organization that serves as a vital forum for the exploration and interpretation of new work, ideas, and methods in photography and related media. Cited by the Boston Globe as "one-stop shopping for the photo buff," the PRC provides a highly acclaimed exhibition program, workshops, special events, and an over 5,000-volume resource library to our members and the general public. It is supported by grants from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, several private foundations, and the ongoing generosity of its members. Featured artists and speakers in our galleries and workshops have included such luminaries as Ansel Adams, William Wegman, Abelardo Morell, Duane Michals, Bruce Davidson, and Annie Leibowitz, to name a few. Location and Hours: The Photographic Resource Center is located at 832 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA, 02215 (BU West T stop on the B Green Line), 617.975.0600 (phone), 617.975.0606 (fax), email info@prcboston.org. Hours are Thursdays 11am to 8:30pm & Fridays 11am to 4pm, and by appointment. Admission is free for this exhibition, but a suggested donation of $5 is encouraged and appreciated. The PRC is always free to members, institutional member colleges and programs, and to school groups with appointments. The PRC is accessible.

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